



State Senator
BETH BYE

GROWING CONNECTICUT

Representing Bloomfield, Burlington, Farmington & West Hartford



**There's nothing more important
than helping people hold on to their jobs
and helping small businesses create new jobs.**

This continues to be my top priority as your State Senator.

Learn more @ www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs

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STATE
SENATOR **BETH BYE**

GROWING CONNECTICUT



2012 Jobs & Economic Development Legislation

The legislative session has just ended and one of my primary accomplishments was the passage of **bipartisan jobs legislation** in the Senate. It is my hope that final action on this important legislation will be taken during a special session this summer.



Talking with a small business owner at West Hartford Town Hall after a presentation by state Department of Community and Economic Development Commissioner Catherine Smith about various business loans and grants offered by the State of Connecticut.

Our bipartisan jobs legislation:

Expands existing small business programs to an estimated 3,600 additional state businesses by raising the limit from 50 to 100 employees for businesses to qualify for loans and grants.

Establishes the Unemployed Armed Forces Member STEP-Up program which will subsidize a business' cost of hiring unemployed veterans during their first 180 days on the job.

Seeks to bring overseas jobs back to Connecticut by giving a preference under the "First Five Plus" program to companies that will relocate jobs from overseas to Connecticut.

Prevents discrimination against the unemployed by preventing employment agencies and Web sites from carrying advertisements for job openings that specifically exclude the unemployed.

Creates "Connecticut Made" and "Connecticut Treasures" programs to promote locally made products and promote the state's cultural, educational and historic attractions.

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Planning for Our Future Workforce

I'm proud of legislation we passed this session which will link high schools and institutions of higher education with workplace needs. This includes:

- ♦ Making it easier for high school students to do manufacturing internships—helping to create the next generation of Connecticut's high-tech manufacturing workforce.
- ♦ Developing job strategies for young people to bolster their employment and to address unemployment among teens and young adults; we can do this in part by educating employers about an available tax credit for people who hire young adults as new employees.
- ♦ Sharing information between the state Dept. of Labor and our new Board of Regents for Higher Education to track in what industries students are finding jobs, and what college majors do not result in employment.